



Fisheries & Habitat Conservation

FHC Outreach News

Fisheries and Habitat Conservation
*"Healthy Fish and Wildlife, Healthy Habitats,
 Healthy People and Healthy Economies"*

March 2005

Dr. Mamie Parker, Assistant Director

Upcoming Events:

Brown Bags are BACK!

Forget Global Warming, Why Rising CO₂ Will Affect All Life On The Planet! Dr. Lew Ziska, USDA, will bring us this riveting talk as a Brown Bag Luncheon on March 23rd.

Joe Burns, Branch of Advanced Planning and Habitat Conservation, will share the benefits of promoting integrated planning and detail the many challenges the Branch faces.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU to everyone in FHC that worked on, worked at, and just plain **WORKED** for Celebrating Habitat! Your efforts were instrumental in:

- Hosting an exciting kick-off rally for over 70 people.
- Coordinating and attending over 200 Hill visits
- Hosting a spectacular Reception attended by more than 300 people.
- Producing 9 professional table top displays
- Producing many, many State and Program fact sheets and handouts

And, most importantly, getting FHC Programs the attention and support they deserve!!

KUDOS TO YOU ALL!!!

Celebrating Habitat was a resounding success! FHC staff from the Washington Office, Regional and field offices, and many of our partners made over 200 visits to Capitol Hill the week of March 7-11. Jim Fowler (right), star of Mutual of



Omaha's "Wild Kingdom," and his assistant Larry Battson (left) displayed an Alligator snapping turtle, American alligator, and a badger to a standing-room-only crowd during the Reception on Thursday night. Attendees enjoyed "good eats," listening to the band "Jazzed on Habitat," and networking with Congressmen, Representatives, and their staff, as well as our many partners and supporters. What a great way to jump into Spring!!



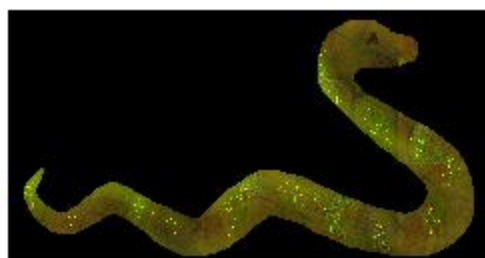
March....In like a lion, out like a lamb...



MARK YOUR CALENDARS! EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND...

**THE NEXT FHC OUTREACH TEAM MEETING IS TUESDAY, MARCH 22ND,
 1:00-3:00 P.M. IN ROOM 205, ARLSQ.**

St. Patrick and the Snakes of Ireland...



We've all heard the story of St. Patrick—how he drove the snakes out of Ireland—which is why he is a saint. Well, that's not quite it. Ireland is an island, and, guess what? There were no snakes found there. **So what's the real story?** One symbol for the early religion practiced in Ireland prior to Christianity was the snake or serpent. The conversion of Ireland to Christianity, therefore, symbolically banished the "snake" from the land. Another likely reason for this myth is that the bloody cult of Crom Cruach in County Cavan demanded human sacrifice to a serpent deity. The dismantling of this cult by Christianity was then remembered as the "snakes being driven from Ireland." **In truth, St. Patrick was abducted and forced into slavery—an experience he never really overcame. To read more, go to: <http://www.enya.org/stories/story07.htm>**

On Success...

"Sooner or later, those who win are those who think they can."

- Dr. Paul Tournier

Quick Tips for a Great Presentation!

- 1. Slash the Intro.** Nearly every speaker's intro is too long. Introduce someone by name and move on—very few people get someone else's intro right anyway. If you're introducing yourself, start with a fun statistic or short story on something related to the topic.
- 2. Get to the Point.** Asking people "How are you doing today?" or stating "I'm very happy to be here" is a weak beginning for a presentation and makes you look uncomfortable and nervous. Open with a quick "grabber" of a question, or by stating a relevant fact about the topic you're introducing—you can even make it fun!
- 3. Rehearse and Rehearse.** Practice your presentation at home with the TV and radio on. It will help you focus on your talk, and not on the unexpected distractions later. Tape record your talks and listen to them—a tough, but excellent way to gauge your success.
- 4. Respect the Clock.** Speakers often get cut short. Know your talk well enough so that you can judge when to cut it off. If you know you have only 8 minutes left and another 10 minutes of the presentation to go (because you've timed your segments ahead of time), you can easily trim a few minutes and still give an excellent presentation.
- 5. Clean Your Shoes.** You will be on display—your audience will be looking at how well you are turned out. They will look at your shoes. Make sure that you have cleaned them.
- 6. Maintain Eye Contact.** Don't just look at one person in the audience, spread your eye contact around the room.
- 7. Avoid Jargon.** Even though you may think everyone knows your jargon, chances are there is someone who doesn't—be considerate.
- 8. Arrive Early and Check the Room.** Make sure everything you need is there and that everything works! Be sure to bring at least one paper copy of your presentation—just in case!
- 9. Involve the Audience.** Use some interaction to keep them interested and to help them remember key points of your talk.
- 10. K.I.S.S.** Make sure your PowerPoint slides are readable, not too wordy, and not too cluttered. Use photos in place of bulleted lists, if they can tell the story. Project your slides in both a darkened and fairly light room ahead of time to check if they're visible.



**The FHC Outreach
Mission:**
***"To create and
share a passion for
Fisheries and
Habitat
Conservation that
unifies, engages,
and inspires all our
audiences."***